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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/643,748	08/19/2003	Joel D. Oxman	58614US002	4133
32692	7590	06/27/2006	EXAMINER	
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY PO BOX 33427 ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427			WILSON, JOHN J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3732	

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/643,748	OXMAN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	John J. Wilson	3732	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### **Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 May 2006.  
 2a) This action is **FINAL**.      2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-9, 11-39 and 42-44 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-9, 11-39 and 42-44 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### **Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 11 May 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### **Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### **Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In line 1, "the noncurable" lacks proper antecedent basis within the claims.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9, 11, 12, 16-24, 26, 28-35 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kennedy (4129946) in view of Neustadter (3565387) and Ivanov et al (4113499). Kennedy shows a dental form 10 made of an organic composition, a co-polyester plastic, and including a reservoir as shown for filling with a hardenable dental material. Kennedy does not show the form being malleable. Neustadter shows using a malleable material, column 2, lines 54-57. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Kennedy to include using a malleable material as shown by Neustadter in order to obtain the desired final shape that best

matches the other teeth. The above combination does not show using a composition that contains a surfactant. Ivanov teaches using a surfactant, column 3, lines 4-10, to improve the strength of a disposable mold form. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the above combination to include using a composition that includes a surfactant as shown by Ivanov in order to solve the problem of including sufficient strength in a mold form. As to claim 2, Neustadter further shows using a curable composition, column 2, lines 40-48, and as to claims 4, 5, 17 and 18, the use of curable or non-curable composition is held to be an obvious matter of choice in well known plastic compositions to one of ordinary skill in the art. As to claim 3, to use an initiator with a curable composition is well known. As to claims 6 and 18-20, Ivanov shows using a surfactant with filler. As to claims 7-9 and 19-21, the specific type of filler material used is an obvious matter of choice in known filler materials to the skilled artisan. As to claims 24, 26 and 33, the shown structure is capable of being removed or not removed, and as such, the intended use of the shown structure is not given patentable weight. As to claim 28, to not use filler is an obvious matter of choice in the use or non use of known parameter to obtain the desired properties.

Claims 13, 14, 25 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kennedy (4129946) in view of Neustadter (3565387) and Ivanov et al (4113499) as applied to claims 1, 16 and 28 above, and further in view of Uthoff (5102332). The above combination does not show using a package that can block light. Uthoff teaches using a package 2 that can block light. It would be obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art to modify the above combination to include a package as shown by Uthoff in order to ship and protect the article.

Claims 15, 27 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kennedy (4129946) in view of Neustadter (3565387) and Ivanov et al (4113499) as applied to claims 1, 16 and 28 above, and further in view of Kahn (3949476). Kennedy shows a handle, however, the above combination does not show a handle removed from the base. Kahn teaches using a handle 18, column 2, lines 29-34, that as shown, is removed from the base. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the above combination to include a handle as shown by Kahn in order to better manipulate the article in the mouth.

Claims 39 and 42-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Simor (3585723) in view of Neustadter (3565387), Ivanov et al (4113499) and Wilson (5487663). Simor shows the method step of selecting an article form 10, column 5, lines 53-55, filling the form with a hardenable material, column 6, lines 21-2, placing the form on a tooth, column 6, lines 26-29, hardening the material, column 1, lines 66-71, cementing to the tooth as shown and reshaping the article form in the subject's mouth, column 6, lines 55-58, and column 8, lines 65-71. Simor does not show using an organic composition. Neustadter shows using an organic composition, column 2, lines 40-48. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Simor to use an organic composition as shown by Neustadter in order to make use of known plastics for

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making a tooth form. The above combination does not show using a composition that contains a surfactant. Ivanov teaches using a surfactant, column 3, lines 4-10, to improve the strength of a disposable mold form. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the above combination to include using a composition that includes a surfactant as shown by Ivanov in order to solve the problem of including sufficient strength in a mold form. The above combination does not show the step of removing the form. Wilson teaches that it is known to use a crown form as part of the final crown as taught by Simor, or in the alternative, to remove the form, see the Abstract of Wilson. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the above combination to include removing the form as taught by Wilson in order to make use of known alternatives in the art to obtain the desired final dental article. To use a curable or non-curable plastic is an obvious matter of choice in well known plastics to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Claims 1-9, 11-39 and 42-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Karim et al (2003/0114553) in view of Neustadter (3565387).

The applied reference has a common inventor with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) might be overcome by: (1) a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not an invention "by another"; (2) a showing of a date of invention for the claimed subject

matter of the application which corresponds to subject matter disclosed but not claimed in the reference, prior to the effective U.S. filing date of the reference under 37 CFR 1.131; or (3) an oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.130 stating that the application and reference are currently owned by the same party and that the inventor named in the application is the prior inventor under 35 U.S.C. 104, together with a terminal disclaimer in accordance with 37 CFR 1.321(c). For applications filed on or after November 29, 1999, this rejection might also be overcome by showing that the subject matter of the reference and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person. See MPEP § 706.02(l)(1) and § 706.02(l)(2).

Karim teaches using an organic composition that is self-supporting and malleable. Karim does not show using a form that is capable of being filled. Neustadter teaches using a form that is capable of being filled. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Karim to include a form as shown by Neustadter in order to obtain the desired size and shape. To include a reservoir of material would have been obvious in order to supply the needed filling material. The specific material used is an obvious matter of choice in known plastics to the skilled artisan. To use a handle would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in order to better manipulate the form.

***Double Patenting***

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-9, 11-39 and 42-44 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-78 of copending Application No. 10/219,398 in view of Neustadter (3565387). The claims of the '398 application teach using an organic composition that is self-supporting and malleable, however, do not show using a form that is capable of being filled. Neustadter teaches using a form that is capable of being filled. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the '398 claims to include a form as shown by Neustadter in order to obtain the desired size and shape. To include a reservoir of material would have been obvious in order to supply the needed filling material. The specific material used is an obvious matter of choice in known plastics to the skilled artisan. To use a handle would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in order to better manipulate the form.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

***Drawings***

The drawing figure submitted May 11, 2006 is accepted, however, the drawing are objected to because each and every claimed feature must be shown, and as such, the embodiment of the form having a handle removed from the base must be shown in a drawing.

***Conclusion***

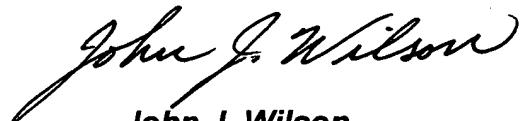
Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John J. Wilson whose telephone number is 571-272-4722). The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patricia Bianco, can be reached at 571-272-4940). The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



*John J. Wilson*  
**John J. Wilson**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Art Unit 3732**

jjw  
June 21, 2006